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NIGHT OWL reporter

Here They Come Again

It's once more unto the breach at the Anderson. A trio of concert promoters will rivivify the East Village theater with a series of concerts Wednesday through Saturday this week.

Names like John Lee Hooker, Bo Diddley and Chuck Berry will bring luster to the marquee at 66 Second Ave., but the true stars of the engagement may turn out to be the New York band called Elephant's Memory.

A story in the new biweekly newspaper Ace by R. Meltzer is headlined "Elephant's Memory Has Been Around for Years," which sounds like a putdown but isn't, the gist of the article being the group's long, crazy, underground life making music without ever making it as an overground name.

Something important has just happened to Elephant's Memory though. John Lennon, who doesn't have a problem about underexposure of his name, became turned on to the group after listening to a tape of a live broadcast they had made over radio station WLIR, brought to him by Jerry Rubin. Lennon reportedly considers them the greatest thing since the Plastic Ono Band and consequently

Photo by Lisa Gottlieb

Elephant's Memory is (l. to r.) Stan Bronstein, Gary Van Scyoc, Rick Frank, Tex Gabriel and Adam Ippolito.

he and Yoko Ono (hereinafter referred to as J&Y) decided to use them as backup group Feb. 21-25, when J&Y act as guest host and hostess on the Mike Douglas Show, telecast here 4:30 to 6 p.m.

There will be a heterogeneous mixture of guests on those shows ranging from Chuck Berry to Bobby Seale and Ralph Nader to the Ace Trucking Company and including Yellow Pearl, an Oriental guitar duo Y likes.

The Memory naturally are thrilled by the possibilities of this new alliance. They are in the middle of recording sessions with J&Y at the Record Plant this week, hopefully leading to an appearance on a J&Y LP. There are three sides of a new double J&Y LP already finished, covering appearances at the Lyceum Theater in London in 1970, the Fillmore with Frank Zappa last summer and the John Sinclair Ann Arbor rally and appearance at Harlem's Apollo dedicated to Attica State prisoners this winter. The fourth side is open.

Nucleus of the Memory are saxophonist Stan Bronstein and drummer Rick Frank, who also refers to himself sometimes as Reek Havoc. On their first album, made for Buddah in 1968, they had a whole other musical complement than today. Much of that LP's music for me has a lush Blood, Sweat and Tears quality. They also had a girl vocalist with a Grace Slick quality, to continue the comparison game. (She was Michal Shapiro, not Carly Simon, who also once did vocals with the group, but not on record.)

By the time Memory recorded the second LP for Metromedia in 1970, three of the seven members were new and there was a more athletic quality to their music as well as their compositions. For example, "Power to the Streets" sang "All power's to the people . . . take it to the streets . . . off the subway . . . make it free——" and "Piece Now" sang "Free all my brothers, all my sisters from the jails——" The difference is emphasized by the album covers: On the Buddah LP, the group is posed in arty body-painted nudity worthy of Vogue while on the Metromedia LP they're shown in a black-and-white photo on the bandstand at a Panthers' benefit rally in New Haven.

Bronstein and Frank said they believe the political tone of the LP kept Metromedia from putting any weight behind its promotion. Nevertheless, the LP still is in the catalog. The group pondered their future, sitting around after a rehearsal session at Magnagraphic Enterprises recording studio in Greenwich Village.

The group's musical character doesn't have to be shaped by political subjects, Bronstein said. "We can do more political energy with our life styles," he explained. This group now is a quintet, a result of new changes. The others are Adam Ippolito on keyboards and guitarists Gary Van Scyoc and Tex Gabriel, who used to be with Mitch Ryder's Detroit.

Whatever happens to the group as a result of the J&Y association, their major concern seems to be that they not lose their identity, that the name Elephant's Memory not be forgotten.

—ERNEST LEOGRANDE

THE CALENDAR

Announced Anderson schedule: **Elephant's Memory** Thursday through Saturday; **John Lee Hooker** and **Bo Diddley** Wednesday through Friday; **Dreams** Wednesday; **Chuck Berry** Saturday . . . **Bill Weeden** and **David Finkle**, who have written songs for revues Upstairs at the Downstairs, now are performing two weeks in person Downstairs at the Upstairs, 37 W. 56th St., with headliner **Prof. Irwin Corey** (JU 2-1244) . . . **The Hot House** is the name of the new discotheque in the Plaza's Green Tulip room from 10 p.m. except Sundays. Lynne Furguson is the woman behind the records. No minimum or cover . . . **The Musart** restaurant at 149 Spring St. now has regularly scheduled music by a jazz quartet 10 p.m. to 4 a.m. Tuesday through Sunday.

More B-52 Bombing In Spite of Viet Truce

By JOSEPH FRIED
Staff Correspondent of THE NEWS

Saigon, Feb. 14 — U.S. B-52 bombers raided Communist targets in Laos and Cambodia today as the 24-hour allied Tet lunar New Year ceasefire went into effect tonight across South Vietnam.

The allied ceasefire went into effect at dusk, 17 hours after the Communists had embarked on their unilateral four-day ceasefire. South Vietnamese headquarters reported the Communists had violated their own ceasefire with four incidents, including a terrorist attack which killed seven Vietnamese and wounded two others.

After Big Raids

The calling off of air activities in South Vietnam during the ceasefire followed what was possibly the biggest B-52 raids of the war. The big planes bombed Communist staging areas and infiltration routes in Kontum and Pleiku provinces and in the Ashau Valley region.

Because the ceasefires do not apply outside South Vietnam, the U. S. planes concentrated their attacks on Communist targets and infiltration routes in Laos and Cambodia.

Just before the truces went into effect, Communist gunners shot down an American helicopter in a firefight 25 miles east of Saigon. One American was killed and two wounded while six Communists died in the fighting.

Bombs Rip Belfast

Belfast, Feb. 14 (UPI)—Bombs exploded today at a bank, a business office and three shops in Northern Ireland's capital, but the only casualty reported was a British soldier wounded by sniper fire.

Berger Replaced

Saigon, Feb. 14 (Special) — United State Deputy Ambassador Samuel Berger, after four years of service in South Vietnam, is being replaced by Charles Whitehouse, a U.S. Embassy spokesman announced today.

Berger, a former U.S. ambassador to South Korea, will return to Washington this month for reassignment. Whitehouse, 50, served as a regional director for U.S. pacification efforts in the provinces around Saigon in 1969 and 1970.

—Joseph Fried

Drug Suspects Held in Atlanta

Atlanta, Feb. 14 (UPI)—Narcotics squad agents following a woman who had just arrived on an airliner from New York broke into a barricaded house last night and arrested an alleged kingpin in narcotics traffic. Authorities said the arrest of five persons broke up "a major New York-Miami-Atlanta narcotics operation." Police Lt. E. P. Peters said the group included Charles Shelton, 57, whom Peters called a drug kingpin; Shelton's brother, Moses; Melvin Bryant of Washington, D.C.; L.A. White of Miami, and Carolyn Ward of New York.

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